

Odontotermes paralatigula, a new
species of termite from Burma.
(Isoptera: Termitidae:
Macrotermitinae)

BY

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(With three text-figures)

Through the courtesy of the Central Silviculturist, Burma Forest Department, a good collection of termites from Burma was received in 1950. Two papers on this collection were published earlier by Mathur & Sen-Sarma (1958), and Roonwal & Sen-Sarma (1960). In this paper a new species of *Odontotermes* is described.

Frequency distribution of the measurements (in mm.) and indices of each body part has been given in stick-diagrams on the basis of measurements of 50 samples. This method presents the numerical data in the original form which can be utilised for subsequent statistical analysis when more data accumulate. We consider this an improvement over the current practice of presenting the numerical data in tabular form, giving only the range and mean value of each measurement.

***Odontotermes paralatigula* sp. nov.**

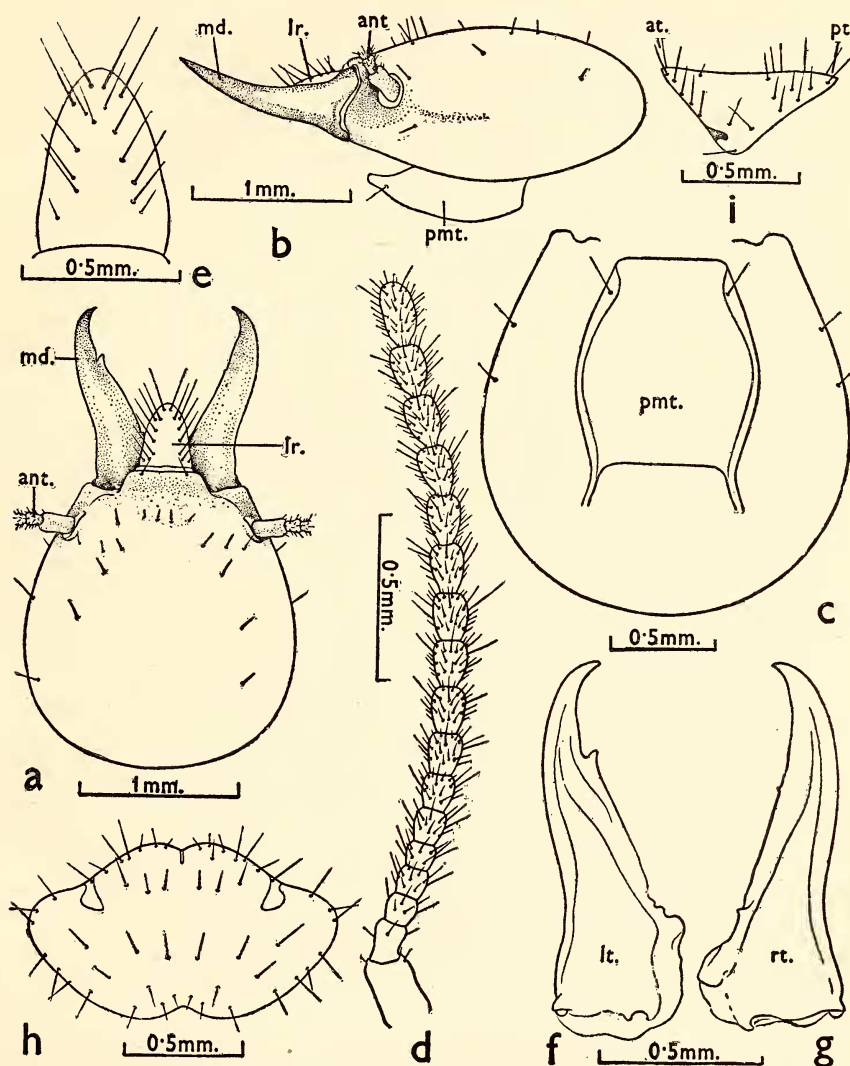
MATERIAL

One vial containing numerous soldiers in spirit, collected from a mound at Hlegu Range, Insein Forest Division, Burma, by the Range Officer.

DESCRIPTION

1. IMAGO: Not known so far.
2. SOLDIER: (Text-fig. 1-3, Table)

General. Head-capsule brown to chocolate brown; antennae paler than head-capsule, distal segments slightly darker than proximal segments; labrum almost as dark as head-capsule; mandibles paler



Odontotermes paralatigula sp. nov., soldier caste

Text-fig. 1. (a) Head, dorsal view. (b) Head, side view (left). (c) Head-capsule, ventral view. (d) Antenna. (e) Labrum, dorsal view. (f-g) Left and right mandibles, respectively. (h) Pronotum, dorsal view. (i) Pronotum, side view (left).

ant. antenna ; at. anterior ; lr. labrum ; lt. left ; md. mandible ; pmt. postmentum ; pt. posterior ; rt. right

All figures are drawn from paratype specimen from the holotype colony.

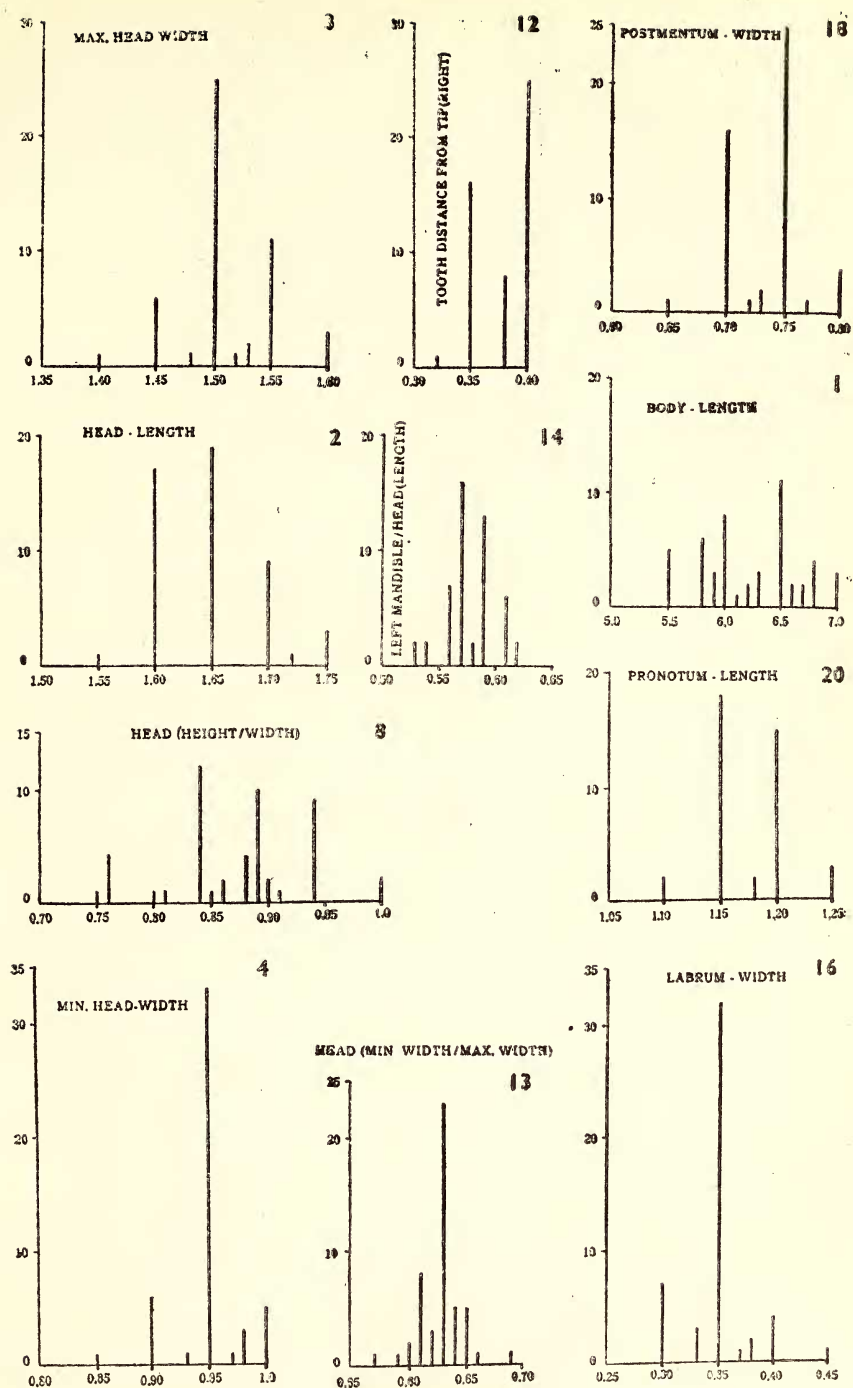
basally, darker distally; pronotum, legs and body pale yellow to light brown; head and pronotum moderately hairy; legs and body densely pilose. Approximate total body length (straight line distance) 5.5-7.0 mm.

Head. Head-capsule suboval, widest at the occiput whence sides progressively narrow down anteriorly; in profile, arched, both dorsally and ventrally; somewhat egg-shaped; posterior margin convex. *Fontanelle.* Indistinct. *Antennae.* With 17 segments; segments 1 and 2 sparsely and others densely pilose; segment 1 largest and cylindrical; 2 longer than 3; 3 and 4 subequal; 5 shortest; remaining segments progressively increasing in length and becoming club-headed. *Clypeus.* Postclypeus distinguishable from frons by weak elevation; rectangular, broader than long; with a pair of hairs anteriorly. Anteclypeus narrow; rectangular, white, membranous and apilose. *Labrum.* Tongue-shaped; longer than broad; with long setae almost arranged in 2 rows. *Mandibles.* Sabre-shaped, thin and rather sharply hooked at the tip; more than half the length of head-capsule (head mandibular index 0.53-0.62). Left mandible with a prominent tooth situated a little posterior to outer third (tooth index 0.65-0.70); basally with 1-2 small teeth anterior to molar projection. Right mandible with two very minute teeth, one situated a little anterior to the middle and another lying basally, the basal tooth slightly larger than the anterior one. *Postmentum.* Large; in profile, greatly arched ventrally; margined with dark chitin; widest at the middle whence the sides gradually converge both anteriorly and posteriorly; anterior margin transversely truncated; with two long hairs anteriorly.

Thorax: Pronotum. Saddle-shaped; hairy; much narrower than head-capsule; length a little more than half the width (index 0.57-0.64); in profile, the middle area only weakly concave, with deep depressions laterally; both anterior and posterior margins incised. *Mesonotum.* Narrower than pro- and meta-notum; posterior margin of both meso- and meta-notum weakly emarginate medially. *Legs.* Long, slender, and hairy; tibial spurs 3 : 2 : 2; tarsi 4-segmented and ending in weak claws.

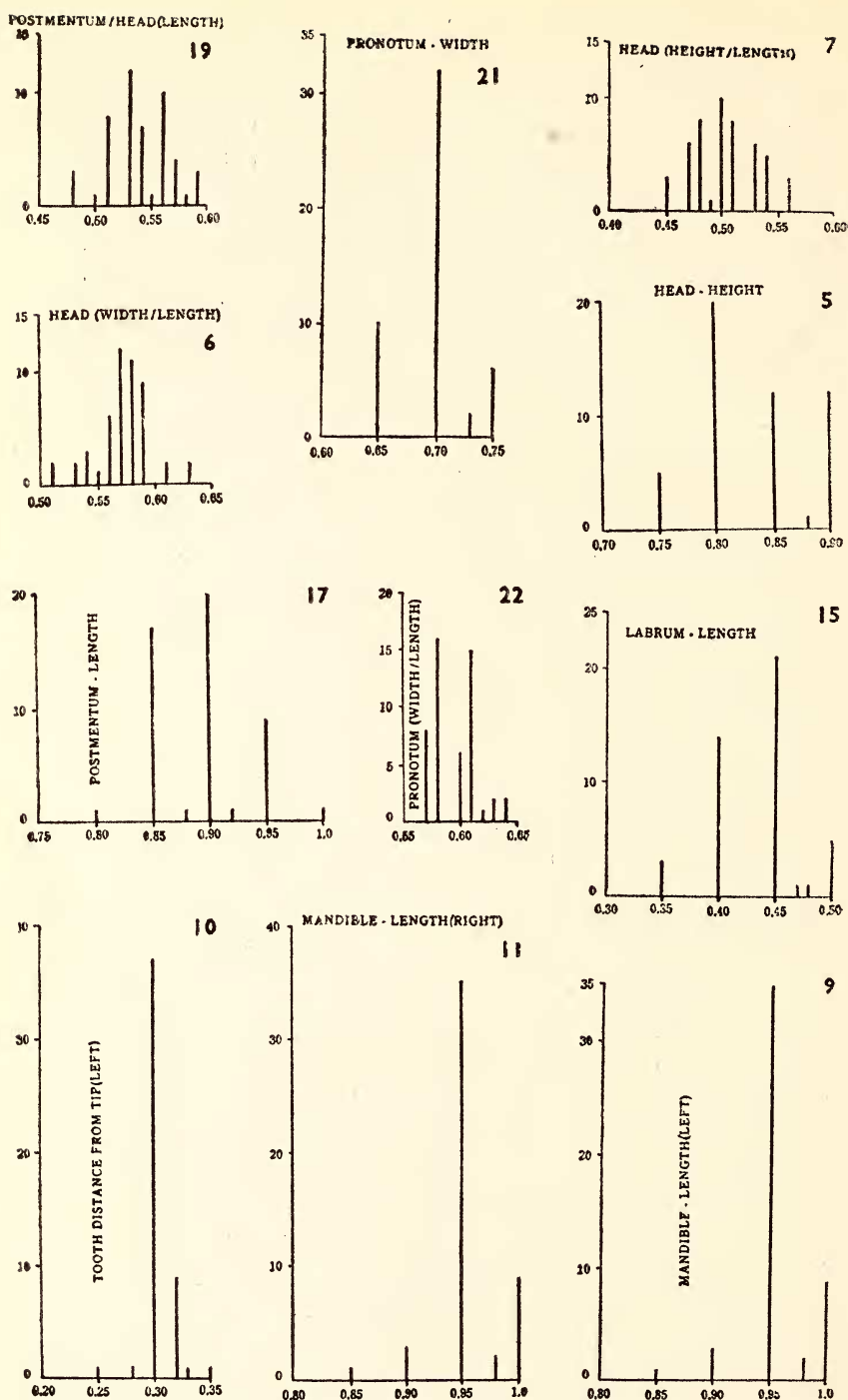
Abdomen. Elongate and hairy; hairs on tergites shorter than those of sternites. Cerci short and hairy; 2-segmented, basal segment broad, distal segment narrow and chitinated.

3. WORKER: Unknown



Odontotermes paralatigula sp. nov.

Text-fig. 2. Stick diagrams showing frequency distribution and measurements (in mm.) and indices (shown along abscissae) of body parts of soldiers of *Odontotermes paralatigula* sp. nov., based on measurements of 50 specimens. Ordinates represent number of individuals. Bold numerical figure at top right hand corner of each diagram indicates serial number of body parts etc. in Table at p. 825.



Odontotermes paralatigula sp. nov.

Text-fig. 3. Stick diagrams showing frequency distribution of measurements (in mm.) and indices (shown along abscissae) of body parts of soldiers of *Odontotermes paralatigula* sp. nov., based on measurements of 50 specimens. Ordinates represent number of individuals. Bold numerical figure at top right hand corner of each diagram indicates serial number of body parts etc. in the Table at p.825